GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:293
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2015
Supply Chain Management
Puttaraju Shri C.S.

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government has fallen short in Logistics and Supply Chain Management techniques in the distribution of PDS foodgrains during the last three years which impacted the services and prices and if so, the reasons therefor; and
(b) the steps proposed to be taken to utilize proper logistics means and strengthen the Public Distribution System across the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)
(a) & (b): No, Madam. The requirement for storage capacity is high during peak procurement season and is less in other times. The average stock of rice and wheat in the central pool during the last year 2014-15 was ranging from a peak of 622 lakh MT on 01-06-2014 to a low of 348 lakh MT on 01-03-2015. Against this, the total capacity available with Food Corporation of India (FCI) and state agencies for storage of foodgrains as on 31-10-2015 was 806.46 lakh MT, comprising covered godowns of 626.49 lakh MT and Cover and Plinth (CAP) facilities of 179.97 lakh MT. Thus, on the overall, there is sufficient capacity for stocking the Central Pool foodgrains.
For strengthening and improving the supply chain management, a Plan scheme on End-to-End computerization of TPDS operations was launched in October, 2012 under which States/UTs are to undertake activities inter-alia, computerization of supply chain. States/UTs are facing challenges to implement the same which is highly complex and involves steps such as online receipts & issuance of foodgrains at godowns, generation of computerized truck challans/gate pass, online payment from various agencies and FPS dealers and facilitating stock position in godowns. At present Supply-chain has been computerized by 8 states/UTs and department is vigorously following up with remaining States/UTs to computerize the same through one to one meetings, video conferences, workshops, etc.
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